

LIB

Before they did oppress the people, only by colour of a
 lewd custom, they did afterwards use the same oppressions by
 warrant. *Davies on Ireland.*

3. Lufful; libidinous.

He is not lolling on a lewd love bed,
 But on his knees at meditation. *Shakespeare's Rich. III.*

Then lewd Anchermolus he laid in dust,
 Who stain'd his stepdam's bed with impious lust. *Dryden.*

LE'WDLY. *adj.* [from lewd.]

1. Wickedly; naughtily.

A sort of naughty persons, lewdly bent,
 Have practis'd dangerously against your state. *Shakefp.*

2. Libidinally; lustfully.

He lov'd fair lady Elfred, lewdly lov'd,
 Whose wanton pleasures him too much did please,
 That quite his heart from Guendeline remov'd. *Spenser.*

So lewdly dull his idle works appear,
 The wretched texts deserve no comments here. *Dryden.*

LE'WDNESS. *n. f.* [from lewd.] Lustful licentiousness.

Suffer no lewdness, nor indecent speech,
 Th' apartment of the tender youth to reach. *Dryd. Juven.*

Damianus's letter to Nicholas is an authentick record of
 the lewdness committed under the reign of celibacy. *Atterbury.*

LE'WDSTER. *n. f.* [from lewd.] A lecher; one given to cri-
 minal pleasures.

Against such lewdsters, and their lechery,
 Those that betray them do no treachery. *Shakespeare.*

LE'WIS D'OR. *n. f.* [French.] A golden French coin, in
 value twelve livres, now settled at seventeen shillings. *Dict.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον and γρᾶφω; *lexicographie*,
 French.] A writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that
 busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signi-
 fication of words.

Commentators and lexicographers acquainted with the Sy-
 riac language, have given these hints in their writings on
 scripture. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

LEXICOGRAPHY. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον and γρᾶφω.] The art or prac-
 tice of writing dictionaries.

LEXICON. *n. f.* [αλεξικλον.] A dictionary; a book teaching
 the signification of words.

Though a linguist should pride himself to have all the
 tongues that Babel cleft the world into, yet if he had not
 studied the solid things in them as well as the words and *lexi-*
cons, yet he were nothing so much to be esteemed a learned
 man as any yeoman competently wise in his mother dialect
 only. *Milton.*

LEY. *n. f.*

Ley, lee, lay, are all from the Saxon leag, a field or pas-
 ture, by the usual melting of the letter x or g. *Gibson's Cam.*

LY'ABLE. *n. f.* [liable, from *liar*, old French.] Obnoxious;
 not exempt; subject.

But what is strength without a double share
 Of wisdom? vast, unwieldy, burthenfome,
 Proudly secure, yet liable to fall
 By weakest subtleties. *Milton's Agonistes.*

The English boast of Spenser and Milton, who neither of
 them wanted genius or learning; and yet both of them are
 liable to many censures. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

This, or any other scheme, coming from a private hand,
 might be liable to many defects. *Swift.*

LIAR. *n. f.* [from *lie*.] This word would analogically be *liar*;
 but this orthography has prevailed, and the convenience of
 distinction from *liar*, he who lies down, is sufficient to con-
 firm it. One who tells falsehood; one who wants veracity.

She's like a *liar*, gone to burning hell!
 'Twas I that kill'd her. *Shakespeare's Othello.*

He approves the common *liar*, fame,
 Who speaks him thus at Rome. *Shakefp. Ant. and Cleop.*

I do not reject his observation as untrue, much less con-
 demn the person himself as a *liar*, whenever it seems to
 be contradicted. *Boyle.*

Thy better soul abhors a *liar's* part,
 Wife is thy voice, and noble is thy heart. *Pope's Odyssey.*

LI'ARD. *adj.*

1. Mingled roan.

2. *Liard* in Scotland denotes gray-haired: as, he's a *liard* old
 man. *Maribam.*

LIBA'TION. *n. f.* [libatio, Latin.]

1. The act of pouring wine on the ground in honour of some
 deity.

In digging new earth pour in some wine, that the vapour
 of the earth and wine may comfort the spirits, provided it
 be not taken for a heathen sacrifice, or libation to the earth.
Bacon's Natural History.

2. The wine so poured.

They had no other crime to object against the Christians,
 but that they did not offer up libations, and the smoke of
 sacrifices, to dead men. *Stillington on Rom. Idolatry.*

The goblet then she took, with nectar crown'd,
 Sprinkling the first libations on the ground. *Dryden's An.*

LIB

LI'BEARD. *n. f.* [libard, German; leopardus, Lat.] A leopard.

Make the libard stern,
 Leave roaring, when in rage he for revenge did yearn.
Spenser's Fairy Queen, l. i.

The libard, and the tiger, as the mole
 Rifting, the crumbled earth above them threw. *Milton.*

The torrid parts of Africk are by Pilo resembled to a
 libard's skin, the distance of whose spots represent the dif-
 ference of habitations, or towns of Africk. *Brerewood.*

LIBEL. *n. f.* [libellus, Latin; libelle, French.]

1. A satire; defamatory writing; a lampoon.

Are we reproached for the name of Christ? that ignominy
 serves but to advance our future glory; every such libel here
 becomes panegyric there. *Decay of Piety.*

Good heav'n! that fots and knaves should be so vain,
 To wish their vile resemblance may remain!
 And stand recorded, at their own request,
 To future days, a libel or a jest. *Dryden.*

2. [In the civil law.] A declaration or charge in writing against
 a person in court.

To LI'BEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To spread defamation;
 generally written or printed.

Sweet scrawls to fly about the streets of Rome:
 What's this but libelling against the senate? *Shakespeare.*

He, like a privileged spy, whom nothing can
 Discredit, libels now 'gainst each great man. *Donne.*

To LI'BEL. *v. a.* To satirize; to lampoon;

Is then the peage of England any thing dishonoured
 when a peer suffers for his reason? if he be libelled, or any
 way defamed, he has his scandalum magnatum to punish the
 offender. *Dryden.*

But what is pure which envious tongues will spare?
 Some wicked wits have libelled all the fair. *Pope.*

LI'BELLER. *n. f.* [from libel.] A defamer by writing; a lam-
 pooner.

Our common libellers are as free from the imputation of
 wit, as of morality. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

The squibs are those who, in the common phrase, are
 called libellers and lampooners. *Taylor.*

The common libellers, in their invectives, tax the church
 with an insatiable desire of power and wealth, equally com-
 mon to all bodies of men. *Swift.*

LI'BELLOUS. *n. f.* [from libel.] Defamatory.

It was the most malicious surmise that had ever been brew-
 ed, howsoever countenanced by a libellous pamphlet. *Watson.*

LI'BERAL. *adj.* [liberalis, Latin; liberal, French.]

1. Not mean; not low in birth; not low in mind.

2. Becoming a gentleman.

3. Munificent; generous; bountiful; not parcimonious.

Her name was Mercy, well known over all
 To be both gracious and eke liberal. *Spens. Fa. Queen.*

Sparing would shew a worse sin than ill doctrine.
 Men of his way should be most liberal,
 They're set here for examples. *Shakefp. Henry VIII.*

Needs must the pow'r
 That made us, and for us this ample world,
 Be infinitely good, and of his good
 As liberal and free, as infinite. *Milton.*

There is no art better than to be liberal of praise and
 commendation to others, in that wherein a man's self hath
 any perfection. *Bacon's Essay.*

The liberal are secure alone;
 For what we frankly give, for ever is our own. *Granville.*

Several clergymen, otherwise little fond of obscure terms,
 are, in their sermons, very liberal of all those which they
 find in ecclesiastical writers, as if it were our duty to under-
 stand them. *Swift.*

LIBERALITY. *n. f.* [liberalitas, Latin; liberalité, Fr.] Mu-
 nificence; bounty; generosity; generous profusion.

Why should he despair, that knows to court
 With words, fair looks, and liberality? *Shakespeare.*

Such moderation with thy bounty join,
 That thou may'st nothing give that is not thine;
 That liberality is but cast away,
 Which makes us borrow what we cannot pay. *Denham.*

LIBERALLY. *adv.* [from liberal.] Bounteously; bountifully;
 largely.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that
 giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not. *James i. 5.*

LI'BERTINE. *n. f.* [libertin, French.]

1. One unconfin'd; one at liberty.

When he speaks,
 The air, a charter'd libertine, is still;
 And the mute wonder lurketh in men's ears,
 To steal his sweet and honied sentences. *Shakefp. Hen. V.*

2. One who lives without restraint or law.

Man, the lawless libertine, may rove
 Free and unquestion'd. *Rowe's Jane Shore.*

Want of power is the only bound that a libertine puts to
 his views upon any of the sex. *Clarissa.*

LIB

2. One who pays no regard to the precepts of religion.

They say this town is full of couzenage,
 As nimble jugglers, that deceive the eye;
 Digiufed cheaters, prating mountebanks,
 And many such like libertines of sin. *Shakespeare.*

That word may be applied to some few libertines in the
 audience. *Collier's View of the Stage.*

3. [In law; libertinus, Lat.] A freedman; or rather, the son
 of a freedman.

Some persons are forbidden to be accusers on the score of
 their sex, as women; others on the score of their age, as
 pupils and infants; others on the score of their conditions, as
 libertines against their patrons. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

LI'BERTINE. *adj.* [libertin, French.] Licentious; irreligious.

There are men that marry not, but chuse rather a libertine
 and impure single life, than to be yoked in marriage. *Bacon.*

Might not the queen make diligent enquiry, if any person
 about her should happen to be of libertine principles or mo-
 rals. *Swift's Project for Advancement of Religion.*

LI'BERTINISM. *n. f.* [from libertine.] Irreligion; licentiousness
 of opinions and practice.

That spirit of religion and seriousness vanished all at once,
 and a spirit of liberty and libertinism, of infidelity and pro-
 faneness, started up in the room of it. *Atterbury's Sermons.*

LI'BERTY. *n. f.* [liberté, French; libertas, Latin.]

1. Freedom, as opposed to slavery.

My master knows of your being here, and hath threatened
 to put me into everlasting liberty, if I tell you of it; for he
 swears, he'll turn me away. *Shakespeare.*

O liberty! thou goddess, heav'nly bright!
 Profuse of blis, and pregnant with delight,
 Eternal pleasures in thy presence reign. *Addison.*

2. Freedom, as opposed to necessity.

Liberty is the power in any agent to do, or forbear, any
 particular action, according to the determination, or thought
 of the mind, whereby either of them is preferred to the
 other. *Locke.*

As it is in the motions of the body, so it is in the thoughts
 of our minds: where any one is such, that we have power
 to take it up, or lay it by, according to the preference of the
 mind, there we are at liberty. *Locke.*

3. Privilege; exemption; immunity.

His majesty gave not an intire country to any, much less
 did he grant jura regalia, or any extraordinary liberties. *Davies.*

4. Relaxation of restraint.

5. Leave; permission.

I shall take the liberty to consider a third ground, which,
 with some men, has the same authority. *Locke.*

LI'BDINOUS. *n. f.* [libidinofus, Latin.] Lewd; lustful.

None revolt from the faith; because they must not look upon
 a woman to lust after her, but because they are much more
 restrained from the perpetration of their lusts. If wanton
 glances and libidinous thoughts had been permitted by the gos-
 pel, they would have apostatized nevertheless. *Bentley.*

LI'BDINOUSLY. *adv.* [from libidinofus.] Lewdly; lustfully.

LI'BRAL. *adj.* [libralis, Latin.] Of a pound weight. *Dict.*

LI'BRARIAN. *n. f.* [librarius, Latin.]

1. One who has the care of a library;

2. One who transcribes or copies books.

Charybdis thrice swallows, and thrice refunds, the waves:
 this must be understood of regular tides. There are indeed
 but two tides in a day, but this is the error of the libra-
 rians. *Broome's Notes on the Odyssey.*

LI'BRARY. *n. f.* [librerie, Fr.] A large collection of books,
 publick or private.

Then as they 'gan his library to view,
 And antique registers for to avise,
 There chanced to the prince's hand to rise
 An ancient book, high Briton's monuments. *Fa. Qu.*

Make choice of all my library,
 And so beguile thy sorrow. *Shakefp. Titus Andronicus.*

I have given you the library of a painter, and a catalogue
 of such books as he ought to read. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

To LI'BRATE. *v. a.* [libro, Latin.] To poise; to balance;

to hold in equipoise.

LI'BRATION. *n. f.* [libratio, Latin; libration, French.]

1. The state of being balanced.

This is what may be said of the balance, and the libra-
 tion, of the body. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

Their plinions still
 In loose libration stretch'd, to trust the void
 Trembling refuse. *Thomson's Spring.*

2. [In astronomy.]

Libration is the balancing motion or trepidation in the fir-
 mament, whereby the declination of the sun, and the lati-
 tude of the stars, change from time to time. Astronomers
 likewise ascribe to the moon a libration motion, or motion of
 trepidation, which they pretend is from east to west, and
 from north to south, because that, at full moon, they some-
 times discover parts of her disk which are not discovered at

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other times. These kinds are called, the one a libration
 in longitude, and the other a libration in latitude. Besides
 this, there is a third kind, which they call an apparent libra-
 tion, and which consists in this, that when the moon is at
 her greatest elongation from the south, her axis being then
 almost perpendicular to the plane of the ecliptick, the sun
 must enlighten towards the north pole of the moon some
 parts which he did not before; and that, on the contrary,
 some parts of those which he enlightened towards the oppo-
 site pole are obscured; and this produces the same effect which
 the libration in latitude does. *Dict. Trev.*

Those planets which move upon their axis, do not all
 make intire revolutions; for the moon maketh only a kind
 of libration, or a reciprocated motion on her own axis. *Grew.*

LI'BRATORY. *adj.* [from libro, Lat.] Balancing; playing like
 a balance.

LICE, the plural of louse.

Red blisters rising on their paps appear,
 And flaming carbuncles, and noisome sweat,
 And clammy dews, that loathsome lice beget;
 Till the slow creeping evil eats his way. *Dryden's Virg.*

LI'CEBAKE. *n. f.* [lice and bane.] A plant.

LICENCE. *n. f.* [licentia, Latin; licence, French.]

1. Exorbitant liberty; contempt of legal and necessary restraint.

Some of the wiser seeing that a popular licence is indeed the
 many-headed tyranny, prevailed with the rest to make Mu-
 fidorus their chief. *Sidney.*

Taunt my faults
 With such full licence, as both truth and malice
 Have power to utter. *Shakefp. Ant. and Cleopatra.*

They baul for freedom in their senseless moods,
 And still revolt when truth would set them free;
 Licence they mean, when they cry liberty. *Milton.*

The privilege that ancient poets claim,
 Now turn'd to licence by too just a name. *Ressemmon.*

Though this be a state of liberty, yet it is not a state of
 licence; though man, in that state, have an uncontrollable
 liberty to dispose of his person or possessions, yet he has not
 liberty to destroy himself. *Locke.*

2. A grant of permission.

They sent some to bring them a licence from the senate. *Judith xi. 14.*

Those few abstract names that the schools forged, and put
 into the mouths of their scholars, could never yet get admit-
 tance into common use, or obtain the licence of publick ap-
 probation. *Locke.*

We procured a licence of the duke of Parma to enter the
 theatre and gallery. *Addison on Italy.*

3. Liberty; permission.

It is not the manner of the Romans to deliver any man
 to die, before that he which is accused have the accusers
 face to face, and have licence to answer for himself. *Act.*

To LI'CEUSE. *v. a.* [licencier, French.]

1. To set at liberty.

He would play well, and willingly, at some games of
 greatest attention, which shewed, that when he list
 could licence his thoughts. *Wotton.*

2. To permit by a legal grant.

Wit's titans brav'd the skies,
 And the press groan'd with licens'd blasphemies. *Pope.*

LI'CENSER. *n. f.* [from licenser.] A granter of permission; com-
 monly a tool of power.

LICENTIAE. *n. f.* [licentia, low Latin.]

1. A man who uses license.

The licentiaes somewhat licentious, least they should
 prejudice poetical liberty, will pardon themselves for doubling
 or rejecting a letter, if the sense fall aptly. *Camden.*

2. A degree in Spanish universities.

A man might, after that time, sue for the degree of a li-
 centiate or master in this faculty. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

To LI'CENTIATE. *v. a.* [licentier, French.] To permit; to
 encourage by license.

We may not hazard either the stifling of generous inclina-
 tions, or the licentiating of any thing that is coarse. *L'Estrange.*

LICENTIOUS. *n. f.* [licencieux, French; licentious, Latin.]

1. Unrestrained by law or morality.

Later ages pride, like corn-fed steed,
 Abus'd her plenty, and fat swollen encrease,
 To all licentious lust, and gan exceed
 The measure of her mean, and natural first need. *Fa. Qu.*

Should'st thou but hear I were licentious?
 And that this body, consecrate to thee,
 With ruffian lust should be contaminate. *Shakespeare.*

2. Presumptuous; unconfin'd.

The Tyber, whose licentious waves,
 So often overflow'd the neighbouring fields,
 Now runs a smooth and inoffensive course. *Ressemmon.*

LICENTIOUSLY. *adv.* [from licentious.] With too much liber-
 ty; without just restraint.